Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Office of Food for Peace
Program Title:	Central Program, Support for PL 480 Title II Devel
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	962-002
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	$2,556,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	$5,263,000 DA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	$0
Year of Initial Obligation:	1986
Year of Final Obligation:	2004

Summary: The Office of Food for Peace (FFP) support P.L. 480 Title II non- emergency (development) programs includes a variety of mechanisms to provide institutional support to USAID missions and cooperating sponsors while simultaneously pursuing a robust, comprehensive analytical agenda to predict, prevent, and respond to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. Assistance is made available through institutional capacity building agreements to support private voluntary organizations (PVOs) and cooperative development organizations (CDOs) to strengthen their technical and management capacity to plan, implement and monitor effectively Title II development programs. In addition, (PVOs) and international organizations are supported through the Title II funded International Food Relief Partnership Program in their efforts for the rapid transportation, delivery, and distribution of shelf-stable prepackaged foods.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:
USAID plans to use the FY 2004 resources to support the technical and management capacities of partners that the FFP Office relies upon to implement programs which reduce food insecurity in vulnerable populations, with a special focus on fragile, failed and failing states. The FFP Office has currently awarded three to five-year cooperative agreements through its institutional capacity building program to 12 PVO and CDO partners to promote technical excellence and innovation in Title II food aid programs. This assistance will strengthen their management and technical capacity to plan, implement and monitor effective food security programs which reduce vulnerability of food insecure populations; assist them in identifying the most effective technical and sectoral methodologies for using Title II resources to address both emergencies and longer-term food needs and enable them to identify and promote the best programming methods and quantify the results to show national or global impact of USAID food security programs. USAID also plans to utilize the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance mechanism to complement institutional capacity building efforts through technical assistance in food security-related program design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation; critical food security policy analysis; FFP strategy development; and identification and dissemination of promising practices and acceptable standards.

While continuing these activities, USAID also intends to utilize these resources to obtain necessary services for: 1) strategic planning at the office level : 2) short-term, sector-specific technical assistance; 3) research to validate and disseminate best practices and key models or food aid in key areas such as community resiliency, livelihood capacities, HIV/AIDs, developmental relief programming and conflict prevention; 4) country-specific and broader non-emergency sectoral evaluations to document results in terms of reduced food insecurity, vulnerability to food insecurity and increased resilience.

The expected total cost of the strategic objective's institutional capacity building is $2.5 million for FY 2004.

In FY 2003, grantees included Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Africare, ACDI/VOCA, Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, Catholic Relief Services, Food for the Hungry, Food Aid Management, Opportunities Industrialization Centers International, Inc., Project Concern International, Save the Children, Technoserve, and World Vision, Inc.

For FY 2004, institutional capacity building awards were made to: ACDI/VOCA, Africare, American Red Cross, Catholic Relief Services, Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, Counterpart, Intl., Food for the Hungry, International Relief and Development, Inc., Land O' Lakes, Mercy Corps International, Save the Children, World Vision, Inc.

Since 2002, the major contractor assisting this objective is AMEX, International. It provides institutional support for Title II program and administrative backstopping.

The World Food Program, other relevant United Nations agencies and the European Commission coordinate with USAID and the U.S. cooperating sponsors on food security policies. The Office of Food for Peace collaborates closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture who administers Title I, Food for Progress, McGovern-Dole Food for Education, and Section 416(b).

FY 2005 Program:
This program will be merged into a new objective in FY 2005.

Performance and Results: In FY 2003, Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance completed an analysis of the impact of the maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) components of Title II non-emergency development programs on child nutritional status focused on programs for which final evaluation reports with data on anthropometry were available. More than 80% of the programs analyzed showed on average a notable reduction in the prevalence of undernutrition between the baseline and final evaluation (usually a period of four to five years). On average, the programs reduced the prevalence of stunting by 2.4 percentage points per year (from an average baseline of 53%) and underweight by 1.9 percentage points per year (from an average baseline of 42%). An estimated 6.6 million children benefited from the programs reviewed.

The Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance analysis also suggested that the total impact of the Title II MCHN programs on stunting and underweight increased with the length of time that the community benefited from the interventions (although the differences were not statistically significant due to the size of the sample). Not only does the amount of change appear to increase with the length of time of the program, the rate of change, particularly for the reduction in the prevalence of stunting, increases dramatically after three years of program intervention. This pattern supports the view that changing behaviors takes time.

Results from the PVO institutional and capacity building program also showed substantial gains during FY 2003. Examples include:

- A new commodity tracking and management system was developed by Save the Children, substantially reducing pipeline breaks and improving program efficiency under its programs.

- ACDI/VOCA introduced a new monetization manual in its programs, streamlining monetization procedures and raising the potential for increased monetization receipts. If successful, the manual will be made available to other PVOs through Food Aid Management.